

Ten Things Your Childfree Friends Want You to Know

~Heather Irvine~

- 1 | I'm busy too.** It's not the same kind of busy as with a baby. But it's still busy.
- 2 | I still have a life.** I know I'm not raising the next generation of humanity, but the things I do are important too.
- 3 | I have a brain.** And I know you used to think it worked pretty well. Please don't assume that without my own baby I don't have any idea about your new parenting world.
- 4 | Your baby is special, but I don't love him as much as you.** That means I can't celebrate his poo like you do. And if you talk for 30 minutes straight about his sleep patterns, please don't be offended if I yawn...you would have too in your pre-baby world...
- 5 | Tell me how I can help.** I love you, but I'm not a mind reader. It's easy for me to pick up some frozen dinners or a loaf of bread on my way over, or hold baby while you take a shower.
- 6 | Don't ask "Has she got any children?"** every time a new name comes up in conversation. I feel like suddenly being a mother is the defining characteristic of a woman. And then I feel I'm inadequate in your eyes.
- 7 | Don't ditch me from all your social events.** If it all gets too baby-centered I can leave. I'm a big girl now.
- 8 | Don't laugh when I try to relate to your parenting woes** by talking about my interaction with my dog. I know it's not the same, but I'm trying to somehow connect our worlds again.
- 9 | I KNOW you're busy.** But just one text a week would be cool. When you're too busy for me but have time to post 50 photos on Facebook, I get hurt.
- 10 | I'm patient. I can wait.** I am not another pressure. I believe our friendship can handle going off-course for a baby. We can find a new path over time. It'll be different, but our friendship's worth the wait.